

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Argentina/USSR

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SUBJECT Jose Wenceslao Agusti, Argentine Ambassador to the Soviet Union

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1. Jose Wenceslao Agusti, director of the newspaper Noticias Graficas who was recently named Argentine Ambassador to Moscow, has offered diplomatic posts in the Argentine Embassy in Moscow to three of his closest collaborators on Noticias Graficas. The three individuals are Santiago Ganduglia, (fnu) de Simone, and (fnu) Guerra, Agusti's private secretary. Only the latter has agreed to go to Moscow.
 2. Agusti has been in frequent contact with Igor Budarin, Soviet Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires, and has held several conferences with Federico Cantoni, former Argentine Ambassador to Moscow. He has also conversed extensively with anti-Soviet Poles in an effort to obtain a well-rounded picture of the Soviet Union.
 3. Agusti has allegedly shown himself to be very pessimistic concerning his mission in Moscow and has little hopes of improving Argentine-Soviet relations. He does not expect to stay in the USSR more than one year.
 4. Agusti accepted the position because of his personal ambition to be an ambassador and because the post was offered to him as a reward for political services he has rendered the Peron regime. (Comment: Mrs. Peron and her friends are believed to control Noticias Graficas indirectly.)

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